Community Contact

Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs

May/June 2008

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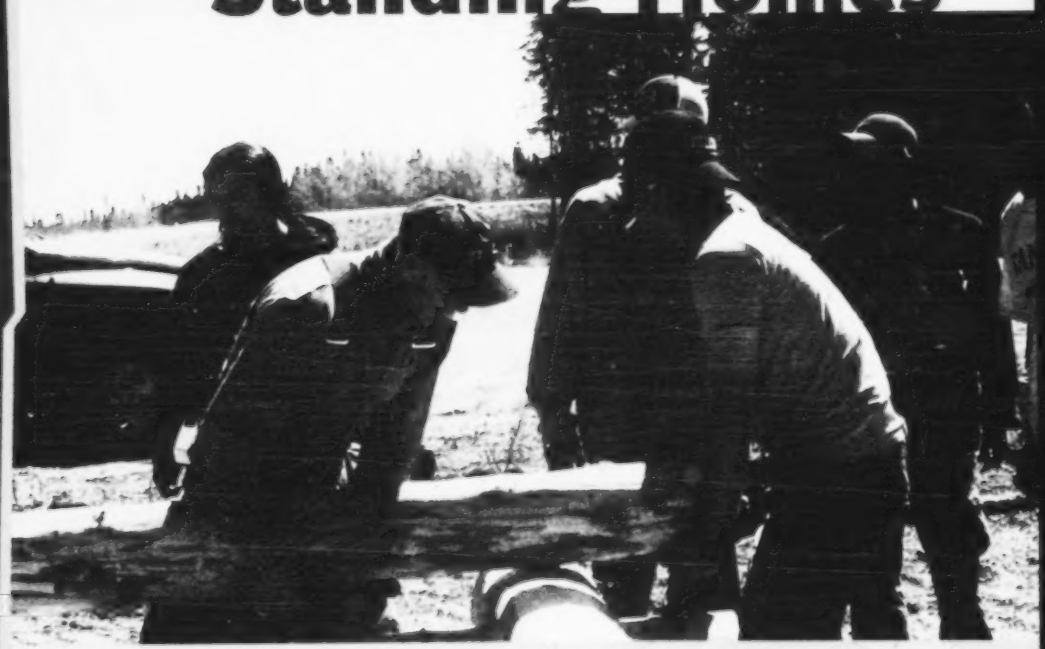
Standing Trees to **Standing Homes**



Frontiers Foundation programs teach northern residents how to harvest local wood, produce timber locally and use it to build homes in their communities. Participants are exposed to a variety of trades and skills they might not have opportunities to learn about otherwise. New knowledge and experience can help create sustainable employment in northern communities.

Northern Links Recreation Edition INSIDE

Manitoba

This Issue

Welcome to the May/June 2008 *Community Contact* Newsletter.

The theme for this issue of Community Contact is environment and we feature a variety of articles on this topic along with several other interesting articles with a northern focus. Information is provided on how communities can apply for funding support from the Sustainable Development Innovations Fund. This grant funding program is sponsored by Manitoba Conservation and provides support for three different kinds of sustainable community development projects. We also provide information on the new Manitoba scrap tire program and the return of the Manitoba E-waste Collection Program.

Our feature article looks at the return of Frontiers Foundation to Manitoba. This organization began in Manitoba over 40 years ago and has returned to help provide affordable housing to northern Manitoba communities. While helping to build homes, Frontiers Foundation provides valuable training for homebuilders and demonstrates the use of locally harvested wood for building new homes or renovating existing ones.

Along with these articles, we provide information on the creation of the Aboriginal Consultation Unit within Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs (ANA). We look back on the constable training that took place this past March and we also say goodbye to a recent retiree and say hello to three new staff members at ANA.

Enclosed with this Community Contact issue is the Northern Links recreation newsletter. Enjoy both of these publications and please feel free to contact us with your comments, pictures and article suggestions or to request additional copies.

FRONTIERS FOUNDATION *Returns to Manitoba*

This past winter, an organization called Frontiers Foundation visited O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree Nation (South Indian Lake), and showed people there how to make standing trees into standing houses. They provided training in chainsaw operation, harvesting, sawmilling, log building and timber frame construction. This included helping residents complete a log cabin, now occupied, and roughing in a timber-frame home. Frontiers Foundation is planning two more timber-frame homes there in the near future.

Some will find it surprising to learn that Frontiers Foundation actually began in Manitoba over 40 years ago. In fact, they built the Split Lake Church in 1964. Since they began, they have built or renovated more than 2,350 houses and public buildings. Most of those projects have been in Canada's northern territories and in off reserve communities of northern Ontario, using an annual grant from that province's northern housing program. Because Frontiers Foundation is a non-profit charity, they also make use of volunteer labour, free or reduced cost materials and corporate support that would not normally be available to housing projects.

Last year, a group of Manitobans interested in bringing the Frontiers Foundation back to the province contacted Charles Catto, the 80 year old, hard working dynamo who started the foundation. The connection paid off. Last year Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) and Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation each contributed start-up funding to bring Frontiers Foundation back to Manitoba.

The new Frontiers Foundation goal for northern Manitoba is to build capacity and improve housing by mobilizing volunteers, donors and communities. Their vision is for every family to have an opportunity to own a home that is healthy, well constructed, well maintained and energy efficient. They promote a community housing development strategy that co-operates in developing local capacity to build homes at the lowest possible cost by using sustainable local materials.

The Manitoba group includes part-time co-ordinator Laurel Gardiner and full time project manager Brian Monkman. A Manitoba advisory committee with a mix of government, industry, First Nations and Northern Affairs Community Council representatives guides and advises their progress.

Cross Lake invited the foundation to offer training in chainsaw operation, harvesting and sawmill operation last winter. This May, Frontiers Foundation offered a log-building course for people from five northern communities. The course generated plenty of interest and plenty of lumber. Lumber cut locally on portable bandsaw mills can be graded and stamped by qualified inspectors for use in CMHC housing. Plans include building one log house and one timber frame house in Cross Lake this summer. Projects with three other communities are also planned.

In a first year of renewed operation in northern Manitoba, Frontiers Foundation has seen real progress. Best of all, they are showing that local people can rely less on waiting for delivery of expensive building materials by winter road each year. They can learn to harvest and mill local standing trees to use in building sustainable, sturdy, standing houses. They can even create local jobs in the process. For many communities, it's a better way.

(*Community Contact* thanks Laurel Gardiner, Frontiers Foundation's Manitoba Co-ordinator for information used in preparing this article.)

Frontiers Foundation encourages harvesting local trees and making timber for housing construction using a portable sawmill that can be towed where it is needed.

Looking for Volunteers and Donors

The Frontiers Foundation Incorporated needs your help and support to bring quality housing to northern Manitoba communities. Frontiers Foundation volunteers (known as Beavers) have come from over 85 countries and Canadian First Nations. They have one thing in common: they want to work with communities to help build new or renovate existing housing stock. If you have time on your hands and skills to offer and would like to spend time working with people in northern communities, Frontiers Foundation is looking for you. They are especially looking for retirees with electrical, plumbing and carpentry trade qualifications.

Frontiers Foundation supports volunteers by covering travel costs, meals and accommodations and occasionally a small stipend, depending on community and volunteer preferences. The foundation also offers a log-building course that volunteers who offer at least 10 weeks of service can attend at no cost. It's something few people learn about any more.

Besides volunteers, Frontiers Foundation also welcomes both financial and material contributions. The financial contributions help to support office overhead, wages, volunteer stipends, travel, freight costs and materials and supplies purchases. Frontiers Foundation Incorporated is a registered Canadian charity and provides receipts for financial donations. The foundation offers charitable receipts for donated materials and various combinations of purchases and donations from suppliers.

If you are interested in volunteering or providing financial or material support, please contact the following Frontiers Foundation representatives:

Brian Monkman, projects manager:
204-367-9591
Laurel Gardiner, co-ordinator: 204-778-7126
Nora Ross, provincial chairperson:
204-223-9136
Martin Strauss, finance: 204-489-4537

Environmental Youth Corps

Get Involved and Go Green

The Environmental Youth Corps (EYC) funding program encourages Manitoba youth to voluntarily participate in projects that will help improve and protect our environment. Previous EYC projects have included community clean-ups, creating green space, and habitat conservation. Project sponsors may apply for grant funding of up to $5,000 to carry out environment-related EYC projects within their community. Get involved and encourage youth to take part in a project that will help green your community!

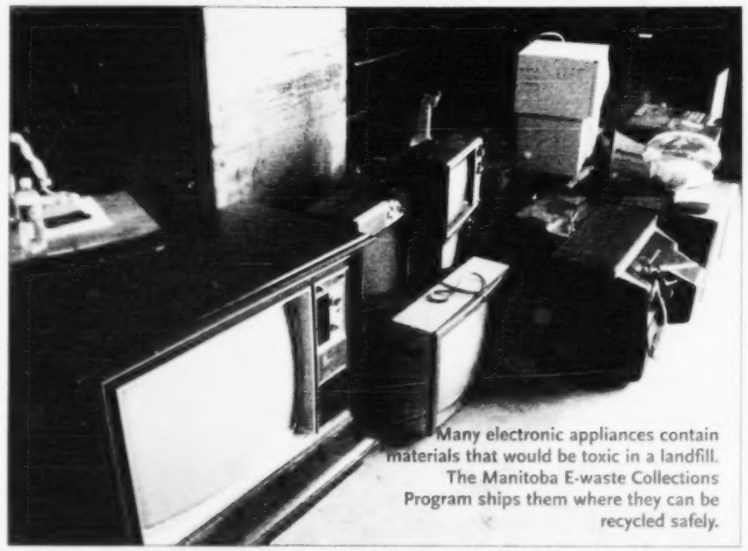
It's a great way for youth to learn about environmental issues, to have some new adventures, and gain hands-on experience.

To get the Green Light for your 2008 project, submit an application by one of these dates: May 2, June 6, July 4, or September 26.

For more information, visit **www.susdev.gov.mb.ca** or contact Manitoba Conservation, Pollution Prevention Branch 204-945-8980, toll free at 1-800-282-8069, ext. 8980, or e-mail **sdif@gov.mb.ca**

Manitoba

Manitoba E-waste **Collection Program**



Many electronic appliances contain materials that would be toxic in a landfill. The Manitoba E-waste Collections Program ships them where they can be recycled safely.

Manitoba has announced the return of electronic waste collection sites for 2008. As part of the province's e-waste recycling program, temporary collection points have been established throughout the province to accept a variety of residential electronic items **free of charge.** This program builds on last year's success with collecting more than 305,000 kilograms (30 semi-trailer loads) of e-waste at temporary depots set up in partnership with local communities, businesses and non-profit recycling centres.

E-waste depots for 2008 will accept the following materials from residential sources only:

- TVs, VCRs and stereos
- telephones, fax machines and cell phones
- computer equipment, laptops, printers and scanners
- microwaves, copiers and rechargeable batteries

Some of the more than 20 locations set up for 2008 include:

- Thompson Recycling Council, 16 Severn Crescent, Thompson
- Dauphin Parkland Regional Recycling Centre, 871 Whitmore Avenue East, Dauphin
- Swan River Landfill, southeast of Swan River Hydro station
- Selkirk Responsible Electronic Recycling, 511 Robinson Avenue, Selkirk
- The Pas and Area Recycling Centre, Highway 10 north on Meadows Road

Collection began May 1 at confirmed locations. The latest information about these and other centres in Manitoba is available at **greenmanitoba.ca** or you can call 1-866-460-3118. All e-waste collected will be sent for proper end-of-life recycling to Sims Recycling in Brampton, Ontario.

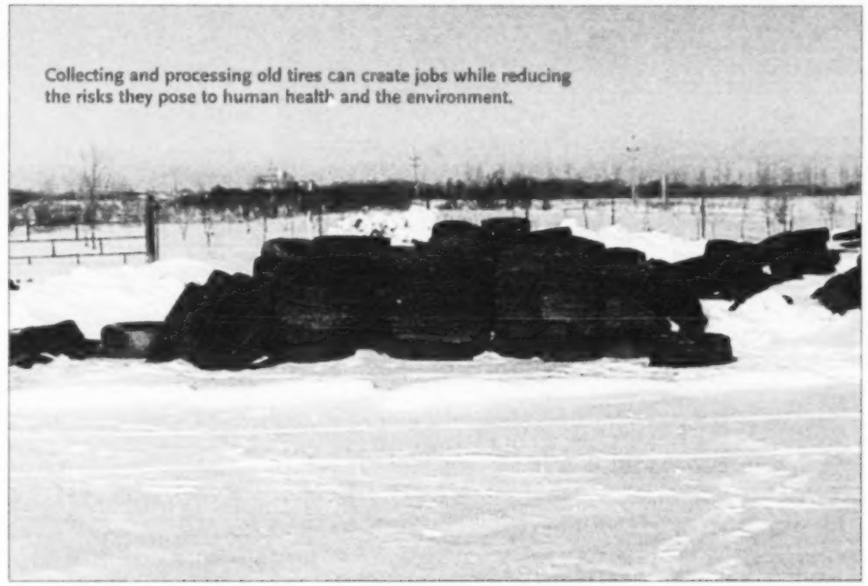
Scrap Tire Recycling Program *Begins in Manitoba*

Effective April 1, 2008, Tire Stewardship Manitoba (TSM) a not-for-profit agency created by the tire industry, replaced Manitoba's scrap tire program with a new program required by regulation under *The Waste Reduction and Prevention Act*. Developed with input from industry, environmental groups, municipalities and other stakeholders, the TSM business plan to address concerns for proper scrap tire management in a fiscally responsible manner is government approved.

"The program changing hands from government to industry is a necessary and welcome development for Manitoba's scrap tire recycling industry to remain competitive with other provinces," said Brett Eckstein, executive director of TSM.

The new program has members from four industry organizations selling tires in Manitoba, including The Rubber Association of Canada, the Retail Council of Canada, the Western Canada Tire Dealers Association and the Manitoba Motor Dealers Association. The TSM goal is to offer Manitobans a sustainable, effective, efficient and comprehensive scrap tire management program.

The program provides a financial incentive to collect and recycle Manitoba generated scrap tires. The program is financed through an eco-fee collected by retailers and sent to Tire Stewardship Manitoba, replacing the current government levy.



Collecting and processing old tires can create jobs while reducing the risks they pose to human health and the environment.

"A significant change under this program is the ability of TSM to raise the money necessary to support tire recycling through eco-fees charged on a broader range of new tires that more accurately reflect province wide collection and processing costs," said Eckstein.

Scrap tires can be a health and environmental hazard. Without proper management, they can be a fire hazard and a breeding habitat for mosquitoes. For every new tire sold, there is a scrap tire generated. Rather than taking up space in our landfills and posing a risk to human health and the environment, scrap tires can be processed and used in environmentally responsible ways. Manitoba scrap tire products are sold locally and internationally. Properly managed scrap tires reduce environmental risk and create jobs and economic development in Manitoba. Since 1992, over $23 million has been paid to Manitoba processors resulting in the equivalent of 11.3 million tires recycled. Scrap tires can be used to make various products for agricultural, recreational and industrial use. Alternatively, much of the energy they contain can be recovered.

An immediate effect of the new program will be a June launch of the permanent collection of off-road tires from landfills and dealer yards. The management of these larger tires was conducted previously by the government program on a pilot basis only.

To learn more about scrap tire recycling in Manitoba visit the TSM website at **tirestewardshipmb.ca**, e-mail info@tsmb.ca, call toll free in Manitoba 1-866-724-5002 or write Tire Stewardship Manitoba, 202-1100 Concordia Avenue, Winnipeg MB R2K 4B8.

Getting Support for

Sustainable Community Development Projects

Russell's Memorial Commission used recycled arches from the old Dauphin arena to add character to their main street.

Information in this article was originally featured in the May 2006 Community Contact newsletter. We repeat it here to encourage communities in north central and northern Manitoba to look at using these programs to help support projects that protect, enhance, conserve and rehabilitate the local environment and improve the quality of life.

The Sustainable Development Innovations Fund (SDIF) supports projects ranging from research studies and demonstration of new technology to community enhancement and environmental awareness. SDIF helps communities meet their needs by providing grant funding to projects that demonstrate:

- partnerships between groups and individuals
- pride in the community
- concern for the environment
- long-term sustainability

Three grant funding programs sponsored by Manitoba Conservation through the SDIF are:

- SDIF Open Category
- Waste Reduction and Pollution Prevention Fund (WRAPP)
- Environmental Youth Corps (EYC)

The SDIF Open Category

The SDIF Open Category provides support to projects such as research studies, demonstration of new technology, community enhancement and educational projects that help protect Manitoba's environment and add sustainability to Manitoba's economy, human health and social well-being.

Who can apply?

Municipal corporations, Northern Affairs and First Nation communities, private and non-profit organizations and businesses, educational institutions, youth and community groups are eligible to submit project proposals.

The fund's priority areas include:

- environmental technology innovation and demonstration
- northern community development and environmental issues
- sustainable community development
- sustainable agricultural practices
- ecosystem conservation
- understanding our environment
- eco-tourism

An interpretive project at Hollow Water First Nation used a sweat lodge ceremony to teach people about Aboriginal cultural history.

What projects can be supported?

Grant funds are available to projects that are ecologically sound, promote a sustainable approach, demonstrate clear environmental benefits and benefit the community and the economy. Projects must address one or more of the fund's priority areas and should incorporate youth involvement, community partnerships, education and knowledge sharing.

The maximum funding available is $50,000. Applications deadlines are five times each year on the 15th of April, June, August, October and December.

The Waste Reduction and Pollution Prevention Fund (WRAPP)

WRAPP supports projects that involve waste reduction, pollution prevention and innovative integrated waste management practices. The fund's purpose is to help organizations, businesses and local governments move toward more sustainable waste management and prevention.

Who can apply?

Municipal corporations, Northern Affairs and First Nation communities, private and non-profit organizations, businesses, educational institutions and community groups are eligible to submit project proposals.

What projects can be supported?

Grant funds are available for Manitoba based projects that will:

- demonstrate and promote the environmental and economic benefits of reducing and preventing waste
- showcase community efforts to minimize waste
- provide measurable sustainable waste diversion or reduction
- demonstrate innovative approaches to reducing waste, preventing pollution and conserving resources.

Priority areas include:

- organic waste management and composting
- construction and demolition waste management
- pollution prevention
- model integrated waste management system development and planning

The maximum funding available is $50,000. Application deadlines are five times per year on the 15th of April, June, August, October and December.

An interpretive trail sponsored through the Sustainable Development Innovations Fund encourages people to learn more about the environment where they live.

For complete details, contact Manitoba Conservation, Pollution Prevention Branch at 204-945-8443, or toll free at 1-800-282-8069 extension 8443. You may also visit **susdev.gov.mb.ca** or e-mail sdif@gov.mb.ca with your questions.

Grant funds are available to projects that are ecologically sound, promote a sustainable approach, demonstrate clear environmental benefits and benefit the community and the economy.

Aboriginal Consultation Unit Established

On April 15, 2008, Minister of Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs, Oscar Lathlin, announced the creation of the Aboriginal Consultation Unit.

"As part of the government of Manitoba's constitutional duty to consult with Aboriginal peoples in Manitoba, I am honoured to officially announce the creation and establishment of our new Crown-Aboriginal Consultation Unit," said Minister Lathlin. "The unit is a critical component in Manitoba's relationship with First Nations and Metis communities. We believe this unit will further the process of reconciliation and understanding between the Crown, as represented by Manitoba, and Aboriginal communities."

The unit is contained within Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs and works with other departments on Crown consultation matters with Aboriginal communities.

Manitoba created and established the unit to help meet its constitutional duty to consult with First Nations, Metis and other Aboriginal communities when proposed provincial laws, regulations, decisions or actions might affect the Aboriginal and treaty rights of the communities.

The mandate and role of the unit is to:

- help in Crown-Aboriginal consultations for the Manitoba government on proposed large-scale projects
- develop an overall government strategy on Crown-Aboriginal consultations, including an internal process for addressing daily activities that require Crown-Aboriginal consultations
- educate government departments about Manitoba's constitutional duty to consult
- educate Aboriginal communities about Manitoba's Crown-Aboriginal consultation process

The unit is currently working with Organization and Staff Development (OSD) of the Manitoba Civil Service Commission to develop a two-day workshop on Crown-Aboriginal consultations for all government departments. The objective of this workshop is to provide provincial employees, whose work may involve treaty or Aboriginal rights, with a working knowledge of the following:

- Manitoba's *Draft Policy and Guidelines for Crown Consultations with Aboriginal Peoples*
- treaty and Aboriginal rights
- the Crown consultation process

The two-day OSD workshop is expected to be available in the fall of 2008.

In addition, an engagement strategy on the *Draft Policy and Guidelines for Crown Consultations with Aboriginal Peoples* is underway that includes presentations to government departments, First Nations and other Aboriginal organizations.

For more information on the Aboriginal Consultation Unit and its activities, please contact:

Ms. Loretta Bayer
Director – Aboriginal Consultation Unit
Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat
Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs
Phone 204-945-7331 or toll free
1-800-282-8069 (ext. 7331) in Manitoba.

Golden Carrot Awards

In 2007, Manitoba Food Charter Golden Carrot Awards recognized three northern community food champions for their outstanding contributions towards food production in Manitoba. The Golden Carrot Awards were created to honour community food champions in urban, rural, northern, business, education and media categories. Community members nominated 30 individuals and groups from across Manitoba last year for their role in contributing to a just and sustainable food system.

On World Food Day, October 16, 2007, over 100 nominees, ministers, deputy ministers, MLAs, community members and supporters attended an awards breakfast at the Manitoba Legislature. On the same day, an awards dinner honouring the three northern food champions took place in Thompson as part of the Northern Harvest Forum, sponsored by Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs.

The northern Golden Carrot Award winners included:

- Gerald Kemp, a gardener in Berens River who has spent the past five growing seasons working on his 108 square metre (1,200 square feet) garden, not an easy job in heavy clay soil. Gerald has grown northern grapes and corn. He preserves his garden surplus.
- Michele Trudeau was nominated as a co-ordinator of a public community garden in Leaf Rapids where she provides her gardening knowledge to school aged children and fresh vegetables to elders and families in the community.
- The Sherridon community council was nominated for engaging community families and schoolchildren in northern gardening and preservation. For the past two years, council has been participating in the Northern Healthy Food Initiative (NHFI) and, as a result, most Sherridon families now have their own household gardens.

The Manitoba Food Charter would like to learn about more northern community food champions. Nominations are being accepted for all six categories: Urban, Rural, Northern, Business, Education and Media.

If someone you know deserves recognition for their food production abilities, nominate them. Tell the Manitoba Food Charter about them, how to get in touch with them and send a picture of their gardening activities. All nominees will be invited to attend an awards ceremony on World Food Day and receive a certificate for their participation. Nominees will also receive recognition through the Manitoba Food Charter newsletter and website. Nomination forms can be found on the Internet at **manitobafoodsecurity.ca** or call 1-800-731-2638 for more information. The deadline for nominations is June 30, 2008.

A Community Building *for a Better Tomorrow*

On April 17, 2008, Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs Minister Oscar Lathlin presented a $1-million cheque to Cross Lake community council for construction of a new administration building in the community. A $20,000 cheque was also presented to support the Cross Lake Army Cadet Corps program and help with their mandatory winter and summer training exercises. The mayor of Cross Lake, council members and several community residents attended the presentation at Manitoba's Legislative Building.

The new administration building will serve the community for many years to come. The community will continue to provide the current services to its residents and they are looking at other opportunities for educational workshops, skills training and recreational programs.

Plans for the building include housing council chambers, creating 14 offices for full and part time operational staff and leasing office space to other service providers such as Driver and Motor Vehicle Licensing, and Family Services and Housing.

This much needed new building will help enhance continued positive accomplishments by Cross Lake community council on behalf of all residents.

ANA Minister Oscar Lathlin presents Cross Lake Mayor Clarence Smith with a $1 million cheque to support construction of a new administration building in the community.

2008 Constable Training Update

A second round of band/community constable training for the 2007-2008 fiscal year took place from March 3 to 20, 2008 in Portage La Prairie. The training, offered through a partnership between ANA, the RCMP and the Aboriginal Policing Directorate of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada, was conducted at the Portage la Prairie Day's Inn.

To help finish the training before the Good Friday holiday on March 21, many evenings and at least one day of each weekend was used for additional sessions. Having all training take place where the constables stayed encouraged a high level of interactive support among the constables. Of the 29 band and community constables who started the program, 27 graduated and three were from ANA communities.

The ANA community constable graduates are:

- Tina Munroe of Barrows and area
- Regis St. Laurent of Pelican Rapids
- Greg Sanderson of Waterhen

Instructors recognized the ANA constables for providing strong leadership and helping their fellow constables during the three weeks. For Constable St. Laurent, this was a second training experience and for Constable Sanderson, it was a third. The ANA 2005 Constable Program Review recommended community constables should attend training every three years to help maintain skills.

Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs congratulates all constables for their hard work and determination. They are an asset to their communities and the residents they serve.

Congratulations to all 2008 Graduates!

Now is a time to reflect on your achievements and celebrate them with your families and friends. It is also a time to set new goals and plan your route for the future.

For some, this will mean finding employment that will teach you new skills and support you throughout life. For others, it will mean deciding to begin a post-secondary education that will take you closer to careers and lifestyles you dream about. I encourage you to aim high and set the best example you can. The trails you break will become paths to take for more graduates in future years.

I am pleased to join with all my government colleagues in wishing you success in times to come. You make us all proud.

Oscar Lathlin, Minister
Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs

Municipal Calendar Monthly Reminder for: June/July

June 2008

1

- Deadline for receipt of any property tax payments to dept to avoid penalties
- Install Simply Accounting payroll tax updates
- Forward requests for MCA revisions

2

- Capital project applications sent back to council requesting missing information
- Council start to act on capital project applications for

3

MMS
- Wet wells cleaned

4

MMS
- Dumping of lagoons

15

- Deadline for receipt of payment to Receiver General to avoid penalty

- *Capital project application adjustments - council should continue to act on recommendations for final project submission to the dept*
- *Submit MEBP form and payment no later than seven working days after the last pay period of this month*
- *If applicable, submit to regional office the bi-weekly payrolls for the Building Independence Initiative*

WPSH Reminders:
- *Council to ensure fire extinguishers inspected monthly and action items highlighted as corrective action from inspections*
- *Does your bulletin board include: Workplace Safety & Health policy, Harassment policy, Working Alone Plan, names of first aiders and WPSH representatives (employee and management)?*
- *Are first aid kits available in every building? Is your Community Prevention Plan updated*

July 2008

1

Canada Day
- Deadline for receipt of any property tax payments to dept to avoid penalties

2

MMS
- Water treatment plant storage tanks cleaned

14

- Submit quarterly GST refund

15

- Deadline for receipt of payment to Receiver General to avoid penalty

30

- Follow-up with auditor re: audit to meet Aug. 31 deadline

31

- Deadline for applications for grant-in-aid streets that are not yet approved for the program
- Complete revisions for WCB estimates

Submit:
- Revised capital project applications
- 1st quarter financial statements (April to June)

- *Submit MEBP form and payment no later than seven working days after the last pay period of this month*
- *If applicable, submit to regional office the bi-weekly payrolls for the Building Independence Initiative*

WPSH Reminders:
- *Council to ensure fire extinguishers inspected monthly and action items highlighted as corrective action from inspections*

Departmental:
- *Regional office to forward request for MCA revisions to Program Planning & Development by July 1*

Workplace Safety and Health *Bulletin Board*

As part of their workplace safety and health (WSH) program, Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs (ANA) communities are required to have a WSH bulletin board posted in a common area for all staff and visitors to view. The bulletin board should be at least three by four feet in size, allowing room to place necessary postings.

Items required on the WSH bulletin board include:

- policy PW5 in your WSH manual (page 1 directly after the introduction)
- WSH representative's name and contact number
- names and contact numbers for employees with first aid training
- community's harassment policy
- community's violence prevention policy
- community's working alone policy
- workplace safety rules
- relevant work safe bulletins from ANA and other sources
- emergency contact numbers

All items placed on the bulletin board must be dated and replaced when newer information is available. Community harassment, violence prevention or working alone policies may be created using guides and templates in the community WSH manual. It is a good idea to include the community emergency response plan on the bulletin board so all employees know about it.

Other information that communities should consider posting includes:

Emergency Contact Numbers
fire department
RCMP/constable
hydro/telephone
conservation (forest fires)
local hospital/health unit
ambulance

General Information
workers compensation
mayor and council members
community employees
ANA staff
local media (radio, news)
local trades people (plumber, electrician)

Profile

Linda Lowe

Linda Lowe Retires

After 22 years and 11 months of service Linda Lowe retired from her job at the Thompson offices of Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs (ANA) in April, 2008.

Born and raised in Birch River, Manitoba Linda moved to Thompson with her husband Gordon in 1969. She raised two children, Sean and Shannon, and she is now the proud grandmother of four grandchildren, three girls and a boy.

Linda began her career working with the Royal Bank in Thompson before moving to ANA in the position of administrative assistant in the financial and administrative services branch. After seven years, Linda moved to the ANA Local Government Development Division where she served as administrative assistant to a succession of three executive directors from 1992 to 2008.

During her years of service, Linda was the person you went to if you wanted to know anything about everything in the department. Known in the office for her knitting and puzzle solving abilities, Linda also enjoyed exercising and traveling. Linda's plans include moving to Brandon and spending plenty of time with her family and her grandchildren. Best wishes to Linda from everyone at ANA.

Profile *continued on page 12...*

Profile *continued*

Charlene Waterman

Cynthia McLeod

Clarence Bayer

Charlene Waterman

Based in the Thompson ANA office, Charlene Waterman is the new recreation and wellness consultant for the Local Government Development Northern Region.

New to Thompson but not new to the north, Charlene is originally from Grand Rapids. She attended the University of Manitoba and earned a bachelor's degree in recreation studies with a minor in native studies. While living in Winnipeg, she taught for the University of Manitoba as a co-instructor for Aboriginal and Cultural Games, a seasonal course offered through the Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management. Charlene worked as a Heritage Interpreter at Fort Whyte Alive in Winnipeg and, more recently, worked for the City of Thompson as Cultural Recreation Co-ordinator.

Charlene brings with her considerable experience and versatility in recreation and wellness and understands the value of good spiritual and physical health. Charlene promotes holistic recreation with a something-for-everybody approach and emphasizes the importance of arts and culture.

Cynthia McLeod

Cynthia McLeod replaces the recently retired Linda Lowe as the new administrative assistant to the Local Government Development Executive Director.

Originally from Norway House, Cynthia brings several years of experience in the administrative field. Her expertise in working with both government and First Nation organizations will be a valuable asset to the department. Cynthia earned her certificate in Computerized Business Applications at Keewatin Community College. Some of her past administrative experience has been with Manitoba Lotteries Corporation, University of Manitoba, University of Winnipeg and the Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre.

Cynthia looks forward to the new challenges the position has to offer.

Clarence Bayer

Based in the Thompson office, new technical and public works consultant Clarence Bayer takes over for Brian Lundmark who has moved on to work as environmental services consultant in the Northern Region.

Clarence grew up in the community of Wabowden where he served as the public works foreman and fire chief from June 1996 to March 2008. He also served as a First Aid/CPR instructor and an emergency responder in Wabowden.

Clarence is married with seven children and he looks forward to the challenges his new position will bring.

Community Contact

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Web: **gov.mb.ca/ana**

Community council members, community residents and departmental staff are strongly encouraged to submit feedback, comments, questions, suggestions and ideas to the editor.

Northern Links

Recreation Edition
Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs

Cormorant School Receives Grant

Cormorant Lake School received a $5,000 grant this past March from the Canadian Association for the Advancement of Women and Sport and Physical Activity (CAAWS). The grant is part of an initiative called Aboriginal Girls on the Move. Almost 70 schools across Canada applied and Cormorant School was honoured to be among the six that received a grant.

The program in Cormorant is called Cormorant Can. It focuses on providing fitness activities and health and fitness information for girls and women. The program explores topics like traditional cooking recipes, fitness without equipment or space, sexuality, natural medicines and positive life choices. Activities include nature walks, learning new sports, dancing, boxing and anything else participants want to explore. The main focus is to help women become positive role models within the community. Organizers want participants to learn coaching and mentoring skills, and have opportunities to practice these important skills.

Cormorant Lake School teacher Jacqueline Monteith heads the program along with principal Edie Turner and counsellor Marcella Fenner. Community members are also invited to participate and share in their knowledge.

Representatives from CAAWS in Ottawa visited Cormorant this past April 9 to conduct a workshop to help with planning and launching the Aboriginal Girls on the Move program. The Cormorant organizers were honoured and thrilled to have visitors from so far away help them with planning this valuable life program.

Traditional learning will play a major part in all areas of the program, which is expected to run once or twice weekly in May and June and again from September to December, 2008.

Girls on the Move Program participants from Cormorant, Manitoba.

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Manitoba

Under the Porcupine *Returns*

The fourth annual Under the Porcupine celebration of music and dance will happen July 9 to 12, 2008 in Barrows, Manitoba.

The festival program plans to have fiddle, guitar, drums and dance workshops during the day and in the evenings, hold concerts, dancing and jamming with some of the best instructors in Canada. Participants will range from total beginners to seasoned musicians. Everybody will be able to come away with new music knowledge.

Previous participants have come from all over Canada to enroll in the camp or they just stopped by to come and listen to the music and enjoy the great home cooking, the friendly small town atmosphere and the great instructors.

Daniel Koulack – bass instructor: "Wonderful event. This is such a good thing for the local community, for the fiddling community and for all the participants that came."

Marvin Dueck – music director, Lethbridge University: "I can't believe the level of musicianship here. Everybody was great, Freddy Pelletier on guitar is amazing, and it was well worth the trip just to hear him play."

Friday night's old time dance will be held in the community hall with the instructors performing. Saturday evening will be the final concert of the festival and all the students will perform their new tunes for the audience with a dance social to follow after the concert.

Although Barrows has a total population of only 108 residents, it's amazing that this small community is able to put on a music camp equivalent to any other, host concerts every evening that rival many country festivals with outstanding energy and variety of entertainment. It's only made possible because of their dediciated planning committee, numerous volunteers and committed instructors who have returned each year.

Lessons are available from the beginner to advanced levels. The festival can accommodate 100 participants. Space is limited, so book as early as you can. Reasonable rates with meals or without are available as are camping spaces for those interested.

Come out, bring a friend and enjoy this worthwhile experience. This is the ultimate music camp for all ages held in Manitoba. For more information, contact Brenda Gaudry of Barrows Manitoba at 204-545-6215.

Northern Water Smart® Programs

Summer 2008

This is a sample layout for the programs that can be modified to suit the needs of the community.

PROGRAMS AVAILABLE:

- Swim to Survive ™ swimming lessons
- Emergency First Aid and CPR Training
- Boat Operator Accredited Training (BOAT)

Swim to Survive-Swimming Lessons

(five hours of instruction)
Each participate attends a one hour lesson each day for five days. *For all ages: children, teenagers and adults.*
This course teaches three basic swimming skills to prevent drowning:

1. orienting yourself after a fall into the water
2. treading water for a minimum of one minute
3. swimming a minimum of 50 metres

A certificate is given upon successful completion of the course.

Emergency First Aid and CPR "A"

(eight hours of instruction)
Each participant will attend a 1.5 hour class each day for five days. *For adults and teenagers.*
This course is for people who want a general knowledge of first aid principles and the emergency treatment of injuries. The course will include rescue breathing, CPR, choking, bleeding, broken bones, burns, frostbite, hypothermia and treatment for disorders such as heart disease and stroke. This course is a certificate course recognized by employers.

Boat Operator Accredited Training (BOAT) course

(seven hours of instruction)
Each participant will attend a 3.5 hour lesson each day for two days. *For adults and teenagers.*
This course teaches all the safe boating knowledge required by Transport Canada to earn a boat licence (also known as a pleasure craft operator card). This course does not teach how to drive a boat, but rather the rules and regulations for boating. Every boater in Canada requires this training by 2009.

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Northern Links
Recreation and Wellness Workshop September, 2008

What is Northern Links?

Northern Links is a week-long annual recreation workshop sponsored by Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs. It has developed into a premier recreation training opportunity for Aboriginal communities. The workshop provides interactive, hands-on sessions to enhance skills and learning to be more effective in the delivery of programs.

Who Should Attend?

- recreation directors
- youth workers
- recreation programmers/supervisors
- health workers
- council members with recreation portfolio

Where and When?

The workshop will be at Camp Wannakumbac in the beautiful foothills of Riding Mountain National Park, west of Onanole. This site offers a scenic landscape and peaceful outdoor environment. The workshop is being planned for September 2008 with further details to follow.

Sessions include:

- leadership
- outdoor recreation
- program planning
- partners trade show
- building partnerships
- grants and proposals
- games and activities
- fun, fun and more fun

For more information on the workshop and to receive more details by mail, please contact the ANA representative in your region or visit **www.northernlinks.org**.

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Don't miss this exciting opportunity.

Northern Links workshop students learn safe canoeing techniques and the proper use of lifejackets to ensure safety on the water.

Aboriginal Summer
Leadership Training Workshop

Planning is underway to repeat the Aboriginal Summer Leadership Training Workshop delivered successfully for students and recreation directors from communities in the Parkland, Northern and Eastman regions last year. The workshops feature variety of sessions and resources. They involve a balance of classroom sessions and hands on learning in the playground. Facilitators and session presenters will deliver the workshops in a fun, practical and interactive manner.

The workshop covered issues such as:

- planning summer programs to include a variety of fun activities
- conflict resolution
- minimizing potential risks and safety hazards in the playground
- fun activities for a rainy day
- developing lesson plans and evaluations
- adapting sports and games to the group
- work safety
- leadership skills
- outdoor activities

Workshops will prepare summer students and recreation directors for developing effective summer programs and putting them in action.

Where and When

Three similar workshops are in the planning stages for the communities of Cormorant, Rorketon area and Seymourville. Communities where workshops will run are selected based on their central location and their capacity to host such a workshop in partnership with their local Frontier Schools.

A summer leadership training program instructor teaches students how to use a puppet to help deliver a message.

Tentative dates are:

- Eastman – June 26 and 27
- Parkland – July 3 and 4
- Northern – July 16 and 17

For final dates and more details, contact:

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If you have any questions, comments, ideas or would like to make a submission for the next issue please contact: Faron or Charlene

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